

SM-~~265~~ 246

## BOND FARM BARN

Hollywood

c. 1835-1900

Located in Greenwell State Park is a fascinating complex of 19th century farm structures: Three inter-connecting buildings that include two tobacco barns, a stable, corncrib, and granary. Constructed gradually over at least half a century, log, box frame, and three varieties of post-in-the-ground construction were employed.

The oldest section is a log tobacco barn built by John F. Sims c. 1835-1845. The logs are well locked at the corners with v-notches, but the carpenter, distrustful of piedmont log construction, added cedar post buttresses to the walls. The gables are studded and sheathed with riven clapboards. The wide chinks left between the logs, probably for ventilation, let in rain, and in 1847 the St. Mary's County Orphan's Court directed the guardians of John Simms's children to lath or plank the barn "to make it safe for Tobacco." Riven clapboard now cover some chinks, and the south end is sheathed in vertical boards and chamfered battens. The stable along the east side is part of the original construction.

It may have been the next owner, Dr. Walter Hanson Briscoe, who extended the barn and shed, and refitted the shed as a stable. The main part of the extension is an even rarer survival than the log barn. It is framed post-in-the-ground with interrupted sills between the posts. The carpenters pre-assembled the side frames--post plates, sills and studs--

Page 2

on the ground before tipping them upright into their construction holes.

Sometime later, a combination corn crib and granary was constructed immediately north of the log barn. It is an excellent example of oak framing with numbered joints. The door battens are secured with clinched, wrought nails.

Subsequently, a double aisle, post-in-the-ground tobacco barn was added to the west side of the enlarged log barn and the whole complex linked by interconnecting sheds.

In the late 19th-century, a post-in-the-ground tobacco barn (SM-245A) was built several hundred yards to the north of the log barn and dwelling. It is a double aisled building with an original shed along its east side--the largest post-in-the-ground barn recorded in St. Mary's County. The barn does not seem to have been built by a local barn carpenter as its frame demonstrates both unusual skill and inexcusable mistakes. The wall plates of the barn and shed, each assembled from two timbers, are skillfully joined with stop-sprayed scrafs with under-squinted, square butts, fixed only with a transverse key. But the carpenter used oak for the barn's hole-set posts (rather than more rot resistant cedar or locust) and he neglected to angle-brace the structure. These original construction mistakes were corrected in the mid-20th century (c.1939?) when extensive angle bracing was inserted and most of the exterior posts were underpinned with concrete. (The original

Page 3

partition wall between barn and shed--lathed for ventilation--has survived virtually intact.)

In the mid 20th century all the barns were carefully repaired, a shed extension was added to the post-in-the-ground barn adjacent to the log barn, and to the east of the log barn a new barn was constructed (box-framed on concrete piers). Much, if not all of this work was accomplished in 1939, as the concrete foundation inserted under the addition to the log barn is dated March 14, 1939. "1939 also is penciled on the inside of one of the 19th-century doors of the granary (which was repaired with new sills and new foundations).

Garry Wheeler Stone  
St. Mary's City Commission  
May 1978

rev. Dec 1979

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Sources (St. Mary's City Commission Research File SM-265):  
Field notes, Cary Carson, Garry Stone  
Architectural description of log barn, Cary Carson  
Historical research, Barbara Raley

# MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

SM-246

DNR# 15, 17

Mgt #: 1902463906

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

### 1 NAME

HISTORIC

Sims Tobacco Barn #1

AND/OR COMMON

Bond Tobacco Barn #1

### 2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

In Greenwell State Park on Steer Horn Neck Road

CITY, TOWN

Hollywood

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Md.

COUNTY

St. Mary's

### 3 CLASSIFICATION

#### CATEGORY

—DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

—STRUCTURE

—SITE

—OBJECT

#### OWNERSHIP

☒ PUBLIC

—PRIVATE

—BOTH

#### PUBLIC ACQUISITION

—IN PROCESS

—BEING CONSIDERED

#### STATUS

—OCCUPIED

☒ UNOCCUPIED

—WORK IN PROGRESS

#### ACCESSIBLE

—YES: RESTRICTED

—YES: UNRESTRICTED

☒ NO

#### PRESENT USE

☒ AGRICULTURE

—COMMERCIAL

—EDUCATIONAL

—ENTERTAINMENT

—GOVERNMENT

—INDUSTRIAL

—MILITARY

—MUSEUM

—PARK

—PRIVATE RESIDENCE

—RELIGIOUS

—SCIENTIFIC

—TRANSPORTATION

—OTHER:

### 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Department of Natural Resources

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

Tawes State Office Building

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21401

### 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE.

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

St. Mary's Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Liber #: EJH no. 1

Folio #: 280-81

CITY, TOWN

Leonardtown

STATE

Maryland

### 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

—FEDERAL —STATE —COUNTY —LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

## 7 DESCRIPTION

SM-240

### CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT  
☐ GOOD  
☒ FAIR  
☐ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

### CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED  
☒ ALTERED

### CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Sims-Bond Tobacco Barn, Greenwell State Park -

This tobacco barn is a tripartite structure, which contains within its aggregated form a log barn constructed sometime during the decade 1835-1845. Even in its present state, with several places on the exterior planking requiring patching and the standing seam tin roof needing some repairs, the complex is both handsome and imposing due to its careful manufacture and harmonious proportion -- how the parts interlock to form a coherent whole.

In plan, the entire complex forms an inverted "L"; the components are the granary to the northwest, the log tobacco barn at the northeast constituting the junction of parts (the crux of the "L"), and a later tobacco barn, double-aisled and post-in-the-ground constructed, joined along the southeast end. These components are further complicated by subsequent shed-roofed additions. The gable-roofed granary possesses these additions on all four sides as does the gable-roofed log barn; the gable-roofed southeast barn has a shed-roofed addition only on the longitudinal southeast side.

What results from this additive process are the following profiles: both granary and log barn now possess "bonnet" or "witches' hat" roof forms. The log portion constitutes a pen which is nearly square, measuring 24'x20'. Its gable roof has been incorporated into a subsequent roof, less steeply pitched, which dilates to join the sloping shed roofs on the north and south sides. On the gable ends the sloping roofs complete this profile joining their north and south counterparts to create four diagonal ridge lines.

Entering the complex via a square opening in the shed of the southeast barn large enough to accomodate vehicles, one finds oneself in an interior characterized by two parallel aisles separated by seven cedar posts which are sunk into the ground. This two-bay wide barn, with hand hewn cross ties mortised into vertical posts in the northernmost of the two bays, is oriented with its long axis running west to east as is the older structure it adjoins. The boundary between this newer barn and the log structure is articulated by two parallel rows of posts - six in each row (including the two corner supports) and spaced approximately 12' apart. The southernmost row consists of logs which have been stripped of their bark and these posts belong to the later, adjoining pole barn.

The northernmost row of posts existing just 12-16" away were posts for a later shed addition to the log barn. They are located approximately 13' from the facade of the log pen. The log pen may be entered through a doorway on its longitudinal south side and another narrower doorway on its eastern gable end. The southern doorway is slightly more than 5' wide and more than 6' high. The bottom log (about 6½" wide) is continuous and forms the sill.<sup>1</sup> Three planks about 8-12" CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

ERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

c. 1835-1845

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

John Sims

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The log tobacco barn encased in the Bond Barn complex was constructed by John F. Sims, St. Mary's County landowner, between the years 1835-1845.<sup>10</sup> Sims was deeded the land on which it stood, part of a tract called "Lower Resurrection Hundred" by Eleanor Brooke in 8/26/1806. After Sims' death, the guardians of his children repaired what is thought to be that particular barn in 1846 according to the annual real estate and personal property valuation dated 2/23/1846 where recommended repairs for the dwelling house and kitchen chimneys were included in a \$50 sum "embracing in the expense a barn to be lathed and planked to make it safe for tobacco."<sup>11</sup>

Research by St. Mary's City Commission also revealed the following as stated by Carson in his letter to William Parr dated June 29, 1976:

- (1) "That this tobacco house is the oldest hewn log barn still standing in St. Mary's County";
- (2) "That its unusual manner of construction (using heavy posts along the sides and ends to reinforce the log walls) make it one of the three or four most important log structures in tidewater Maryland, because it shows how English-descended builders adapted a building type foreign to their experience";
- (3) "As barns go, it is in excellent condition, protected as it is by the larger structure built over it."<sup>12</sup>

He concludes in a manner that indicates the importance of preserving this structure, continuously functional to the present day:

"The mortality rate among vernacular buildings is high and among agricultural buildings exceptionally high. The Greenwell Park barn is typical of thousands of log barns, which have been pulled down, have fallen down, or have burned down until only this one is left. It would be a shame now to destroy the sole survivor."<sup>13</sup>

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See attached sheet for "Footnotes".

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Ellen K. Coxe, Historical Site Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

21 State Circle

TELEPHONE

269-2438

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

## Sims-Bond Tobacco Barn, Greenwell State Park

Description

Page 2

wide form the surround, the "lintel" surmounting the opening and flanked by the two pilasters. The jambs, which are 4" x 5"s, are pegged into every other log end. All of the logs are mortised into the door jambs. The wooden pegs driven through to every other log doubly insure stability.

On both longitudinal sides of the log portion, the logs, which have all been stripped and squared, are closer together towards the top of the structure, the result of which is that they are farther apart at the ends. Cary Carson has surmised that this is the reason for covering the joints at the west gable end with riven clapboards and the east gable end with boards and battens. The four corners themselves are V-notched. There is no evidence of chinking anywhere though there is present on the inside of the south wall some wooden slats fitted into the interstices between the logs.

The south facade of the log section, moreover, is further stabilized by the placement of two round log posts on the inside of the doorway about 1 foot to either side of the door jamb. These posts extend continuously from ground level to just three or four inches above the plate abutting cross beams on one side. These posts are wedge-pegged (six or seven times, every couple of logs) to the inside face of the logs.<sup>2</sup> Above the doorway between the logs are still visible several chocks, placed there originally to help hold and maintain a certain distance between those upper logs, not closely separated. There was no real need to chink this barn as the gaps between the logs were functional as they served to ventilate the hanging tobacco.

On the exterior of the south wall, log posts were inserted about 2 feet from each corner and again pegged to alternate logs. This method of wedge pegging exterior posts occurs on all four sides of the log structure. On the east gable end, for example, the posts are located about 2½ feet to either side of the door jambs. This side of the structure also displays boards and battens above the doorway to the level of the tie-beam; the battens are carefully chamfered. Cary Carson points that the board and batten covering was a subsequent ("Period II")<sup>3</sup> alteration; there is evidence that some of this sheathing has been removed between the southeast corner and the southernmost post and between the northeast corner and the northernmost post. A supposition could be made here that the board and batten was removed at the time of the expansion of the barn by the 1½ story, "fully framed" eastern addition.<sup>4</sup> This addition possesses a door on the south side and corner posts at the southeast and northeast corners which are pegged into the corner of the older barn. The doorway itself is about four feet wide, and the wall adjoining it is sheathed in vertical planks. Along the east wall of this addition are three major load-bearing posts and four posts which are in intermediate positions; all of these



## Sims-Bond Tobacco Barn, Greenwell State Park

Description

Page 3

were reset in concrete in 1939. Some horizontal planking is in place to sheath the east facade, and horizontal boards cover a portion of the north wall of this addition. In the gable end of the east wall of the log structure, vertical studs extending from the rafters to the tie-beam act as nailing strips to provide a lattice for riven laths. This lattice of riven lath also exists in the east gable of the addition. The west gable end features two similar posts each placed about six feet in front the corner, pegged to the logs, with pegs protruding. Once again, the posts extend from ground level to the level of the cross tie. The gable is characterized by riven clapboards, some of which are in situ, some of which have been removed; most of what remains is visible in the northwest portion of that gable. In that end truss there are nine studs which provide the vertical nailing strips for the clapboarding. Overlapping the corner of the log pen and the first of a series of stalls which compartmentalize the north side of the barn, is random horizontal planking with uneven edges beginning at the level of the beam and continuing downward, interrupted only by a louvre of recent origin consisting of 5' long circular-sawn horizontal planks two of which are hinged, their hinges attached with wrought, clenched nails.<sup>5</sup>

The north log wall's exterior is further stabilized by four major posts of the type previously described (7-8" diameter) in addition to four extant auxiliary posts which are pegged to logs as end posts for partitions for former stalls. These stalls probably belonged to Period II (of construction) when the east gable end was extended; the stalls continued then along that addition's north wall with three more posts also about 5' apart; these three are now removed but Carson feels they are probably reused at the extremities of each of the partitions of the present stall.<sup>6</sup>

Feed boxes exist in each of the two 5½' wide northwest stalls as does a manger overhead extending the length of the two stalls. Like its counterpart in the wider stall at the northeast corner, it is more than 10' long, canted at an angle with intermediate slats about 3' in length spaced to allow animals easy access to the hay. (Carson points out in the larger stall the manger has been relocated to a lower position with many slats removed as if to accommodate smaller animals.)

On the inside of the east wall of this larger stall there is evidence of heavy horizontal laths; correspondingly on the inside of west wall of the northwest stall there is still present "grillwork" which consists of horizontal laths. Horizontal boards provide covering for the intermediate posts on the inside face of the south wall of the large stall behind the manger as well as for the inside surface for the rear wall of the stalls which Carson feels can be no older than Period II.<sup>8</sup> A doorway original to this second building period apparently existed just inside the northeast corner of the large stall. There is a nearly 4' wide doorway of vertical planks with two 2½' long iron

## Sims-Bond Tobacco Barn, Greenwell State Park

Description

Page 4

strap hinges which opens into the larger middle stall now defined by modern partitions. Carson indicates a four foot door opening once existed in the middle of the north log wall; he notes "2x3" jambs are spiked to the ends of two logs and the jambs are spiked to the ends of two logs and the jambs are toe-nailed to the log overhead. The exterior of the north wall is weather-boarded.

There is a doorway, again outfitted with strap hinges, which opens onto the shed addition to the west facade of the log structure; the four posts for this later shed are round, stripped logs, two of which are trees with trunks dividing with both branches then mortised into the plate. Partitions divide the section one enters through the wall behind these supports into three chambers (2 stalls, 1 storage) entered by a small door which are part of the granary. A larger door, with strap hinges, located roughly opposite the stalls gives one access to the granary through this and two additional storage rooms the central one of which is lit by a single window and leads to the other, a square corner room formed by the junction of 2 sheds. The remainder of the east and southern sheds are unenclosed and serve as storage places for farm machinery.

The cornhouse itself can be entered through the door at the southwest corner which is distinguished by a hand-carved wood latch. The cornhouse is characterized by a nearly square, gable-roofed interior space, outfitted on each side of a central aisle with racks and bins for storage of corn.

Item # 9:

Footnotes (Sims-Bond Tobacco Barn, SM-246)

1. Cary Carson's drawings (I & II) for St. Mary's City Commission, copies attached to this form.
- 2-9 Ibid., op. cit.
10. History of farm ownership compiled by Barbara Raley for St. Mary's City Commission, 1977.
11. St. Mary's County, Liber EJH no. 1 (Annual Valuations of Real Estate, 1826-41): 280-81. (compiled by Barbara Raley, 1977, for SMCC).
12. Letter dated June 29, 1976, from Cary Carson to William Parr, Dept. of Natural Resources.
13. Ibid., op. cit.

246  
SM-~~265~~  
BOND FARM TOBACCO <sup>Barn #1</sup> ~~HOUSE~~  
Hollywood

second quarter 19th century

Located in Greenwell State Park is this hewn log tobacco house, the oldest such barn extant in St. Mary's County. Typical of a once prominent type now lost through deterioration, this example survived inside a larger structure that was erected over it. The early barn was built using heavy posts on the sides and ends to reinforce the log walls, an unusual method resulting from the English lack of familiarity with log construction. The logs are V-notched at the corners and then wedge-pegged to the posts. The framed gables are sheathed with riven clapboards, and the log south end wall with vertical boards and chamfered battens. Mature machine-made nails are found in the common rafter roof system. As was typical, this original barn was later modified by the addition of several sheds.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

246  
SM-265-  
1911

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Barn #1  
BOND FARM TOBACCO HOUSE

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Hollywood

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

St. Mary's

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

☐ DISTRICT  
☐ BUILDING(S)  
☐ STRUCTURE  
☐ SITE  
☐ OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

☐ PUBLIC  
☐ PRIVATE  
☐ BOTH

**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**

☐ IN PROCESS  
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**

☐ OCCUPIED  
☐ UNOCCUPIED  
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS  
**ACCESSIBLE**  
☐ YES: RESTRICTED  
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED  
☐ NO

**PRESENT USE**

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM  
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK  
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS  
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC  
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION  
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION****CONDITION**☐ EXCELLENT☐ GOOD☐ FAIR☐ DETERIORATED☐ RUINS☐ UNEXPOSED**CHECK ONE**☐ UNALTERED☐ ALTERED**CHECK ONE**☐ ORIGINAL SITE☐ MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

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SPECIFIC DATES 2nd quarter 19th C. BUILDER/ARCHITECT

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

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CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

ORGANIZATION

DATE

STREET &amp; NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

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This log barn is at the center of St. Mary's County's most interesting group of 19th-century barns. A post-in-the-ground extension is pinned to one gable, a stable leans against a side. Tobacco sheds, another post-in-the-ground barn, and a box-framed granary surround the other two sides. Located on Greenwell Park, the State of Maryland is restoring the buildings for a farm museum.

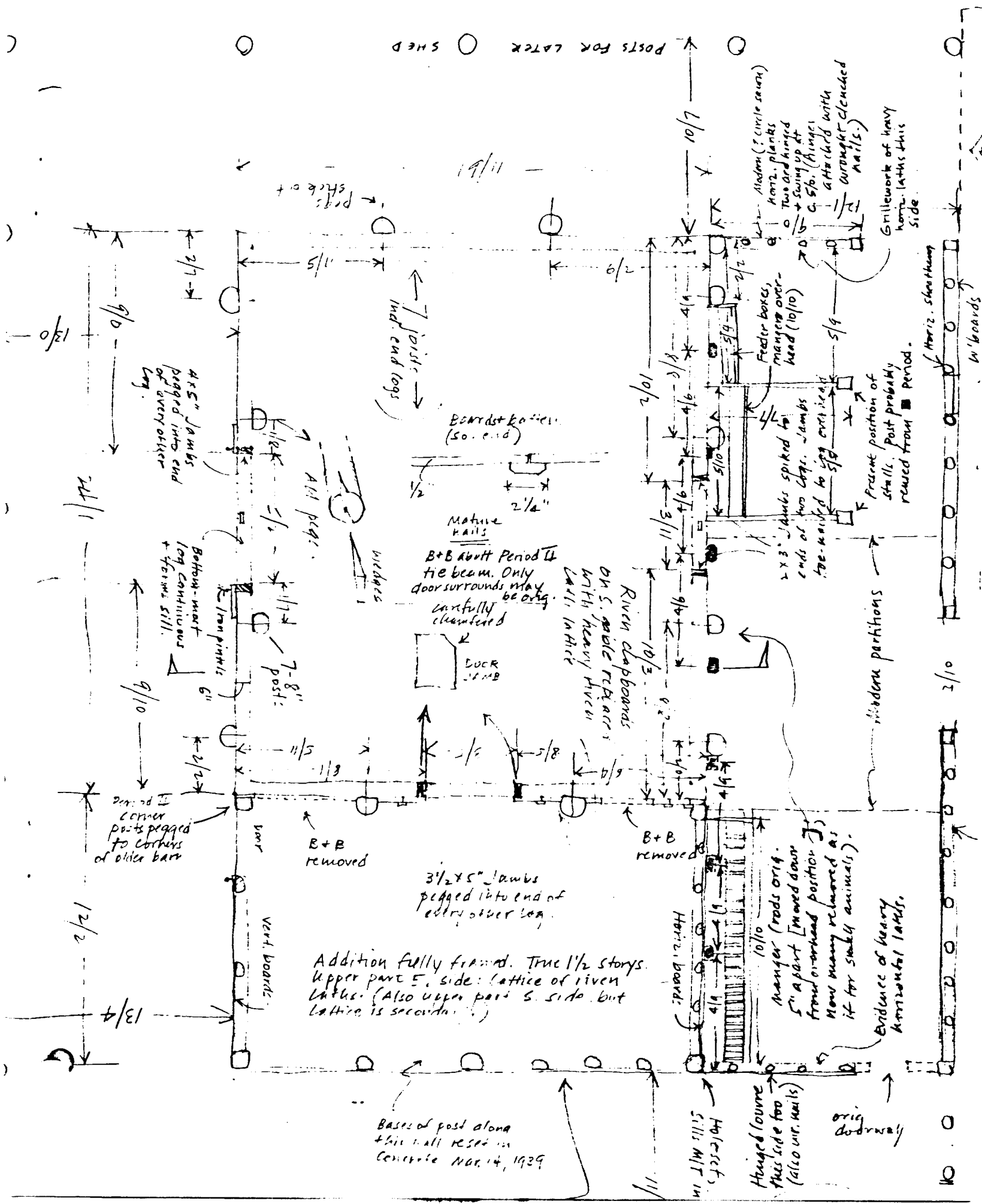
The log barn measures 24 by 20 ft. It is six rooms long and six tiers high. The lower logs are oak. Most upper logs are chestnut. The logs, hewn two sides, are locked at the corners with competent V-notches. The Virginia framed roof combines 19th and 18th-century features. In typical 19th-century fashion, the rafter feet are mitred and nailed to flat, 2½ x 5 in., false plates, that in turn are supported by tie beams notched to grasp the log wall plates. In 18th-century fashion, the rafter couples are spaced at the short (24 in.) intervals needed to support roof clapboard. This barn, however, was always lathed for shingle. To continue the tobacco scaffolding into the roof, every other rafter couple has three collars half-lapped and nailed to their sides. All the nails used in the roof are mature, machine-cut, machine-headed specimens. The gables are studded, and are weatherboarded with clapboards. The shed along the east side of the barn is original.

The log barn was built by or for a tenant of Mrs. John F. Simms. A 3 October 1837 orphan court appraisal of her children's valuable "Patuxent plantation" listed "3 barns, one of them new." Presumably, the surviving barn is the "new" barn, as it is unlikely that two new barns would have been built on this plantation during the same year. The Patuxent plantation had the best barns of the Simms orphans three properties. Their only other barns were a temporary "pen house" on the dwelling plantation, and on tenement No.1, an "old dwelling converted into a temporary barn." The construction of these temporary and permanent barns reflects the generally good tobacco prices prevailing during the 1830s. Prices were high, 1830-36, 1838-41, and low, 1837, 1842-49.

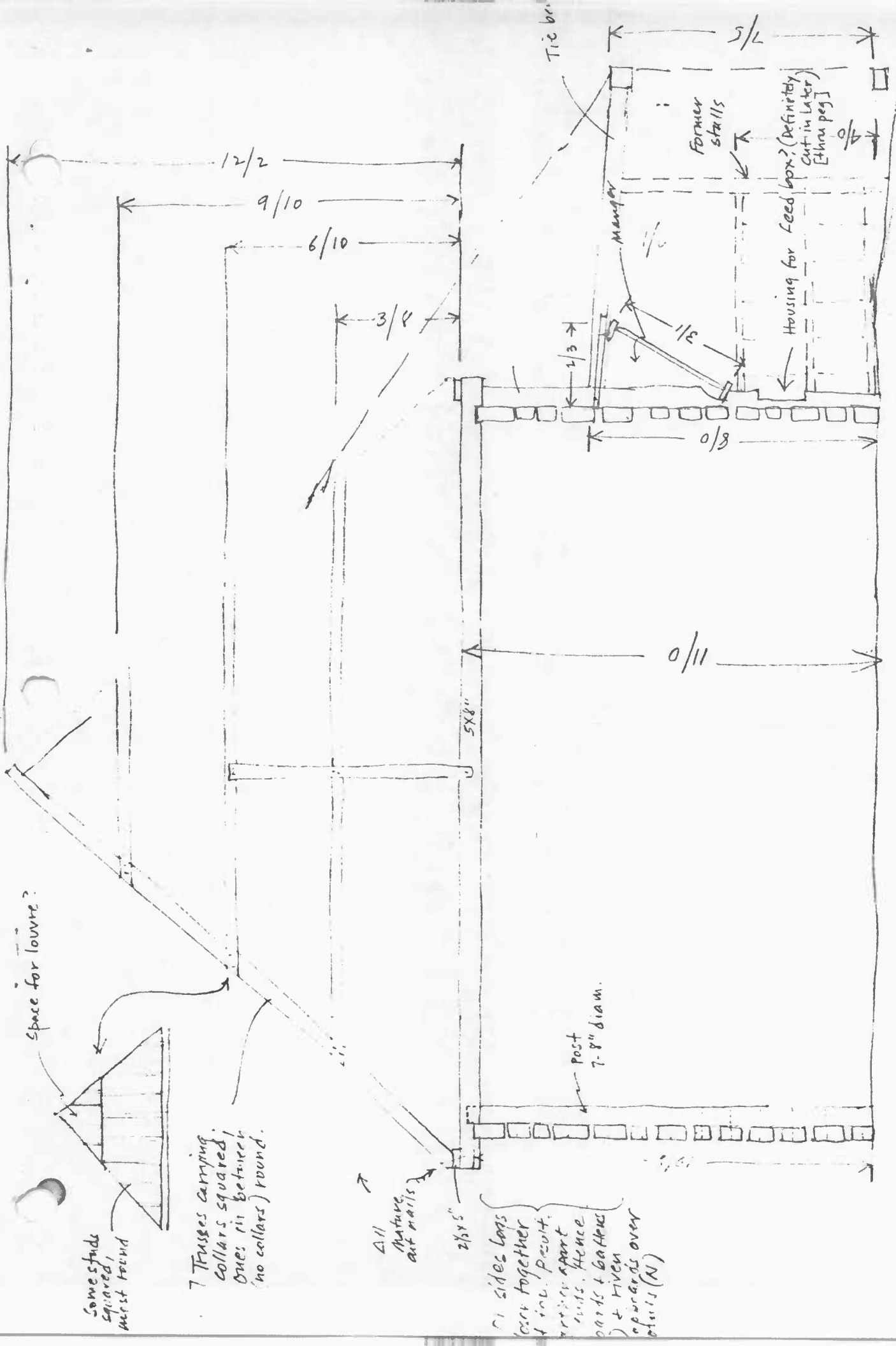
Soon after it was constructed, the log pen of the barn was reinforced with hole-set cedar posts pinned to the interior and exterior of the walls. Then in 1846, the St. Mary's County Orphans Court directed the guardian of the Simms children to lath or plank a barn "to make it safe for tobacco." The order seems to refer to the surviving barn, as the south end wall has been planked and lathed, and the larger gaps between the logs of the north end have been sealed with clapboard. Sometime after this date, probably during the 1850s, the barn was extended 12 ft. south with an interrupted sill, post-in-the-ground addition. The east shed also was extended and fitted up as a stable.

Tree-ring dating this building has extended our knowledge in two ways. It has provided a terminous ante quem for the use of mature, machine-cut, machine-headed nails in St. Mary's County, and it has corrected our understanding of the barn's evolution. Initially, we thought that the cedar posts buttressing the log walls were part of the original construction. But when the growth pattern of the cedar poles was compared to the growth pattern of the white oak wall logs, they did not match. While it was not possible to establish their last year of growth, the cedar trees were not cut in 1837.

Sources: SM-246, Architectural files, St. Mary's City Commission  
Carson, Field Notes.  
\_\_\_\_\_. "Bond Farm Barns," 1977.  
Raley, Barbara, Historical research, 1977.  
Stone, "Bond Farm Barns," 1979.



SECTION

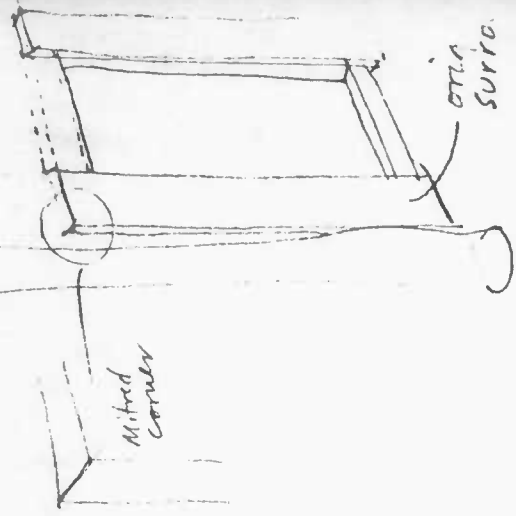
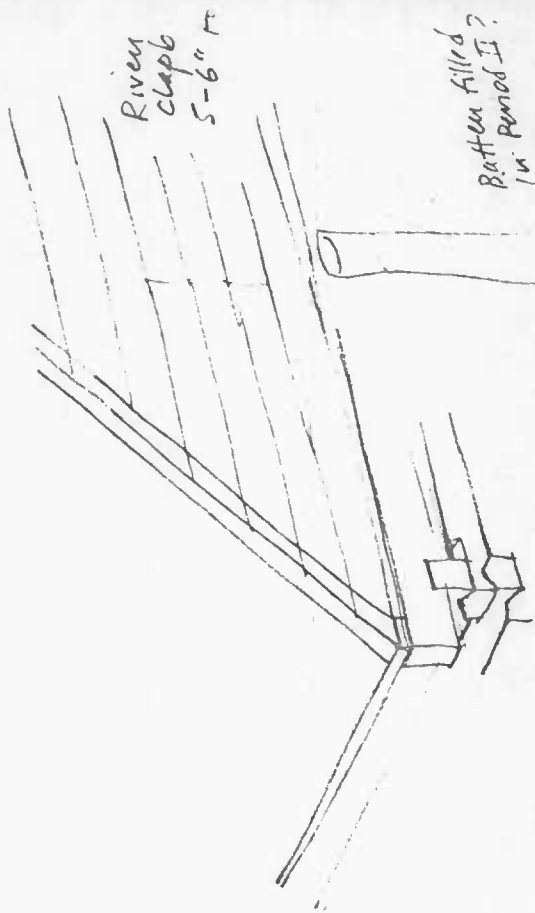


7 sides logs  
laid together  
+ iron post.  
+ iron apart  
ends. Hence  
boards + battens  
+ riven  
spreads over  
posts (N)

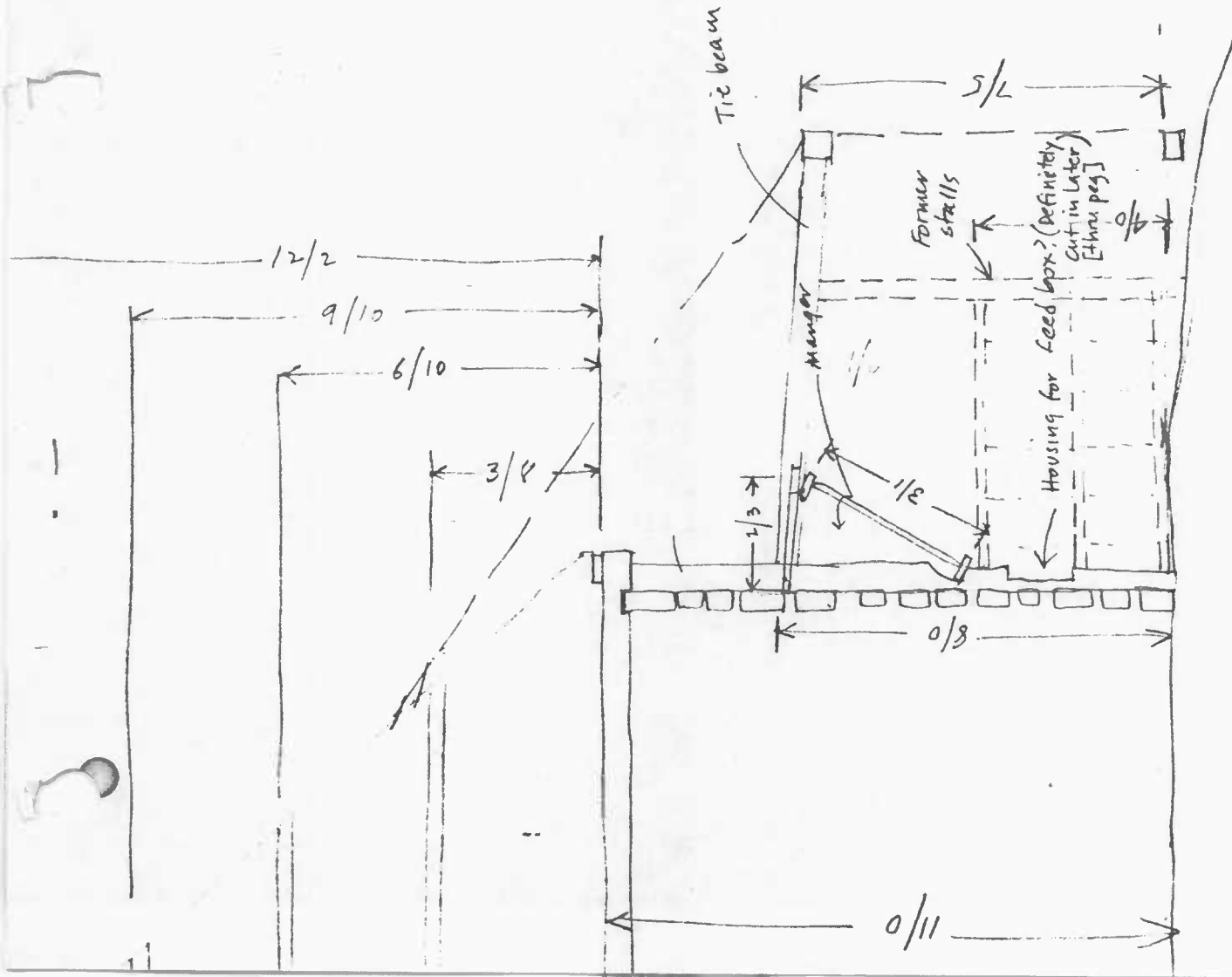
SM-246

BOND FARM BIRNS

SM-246

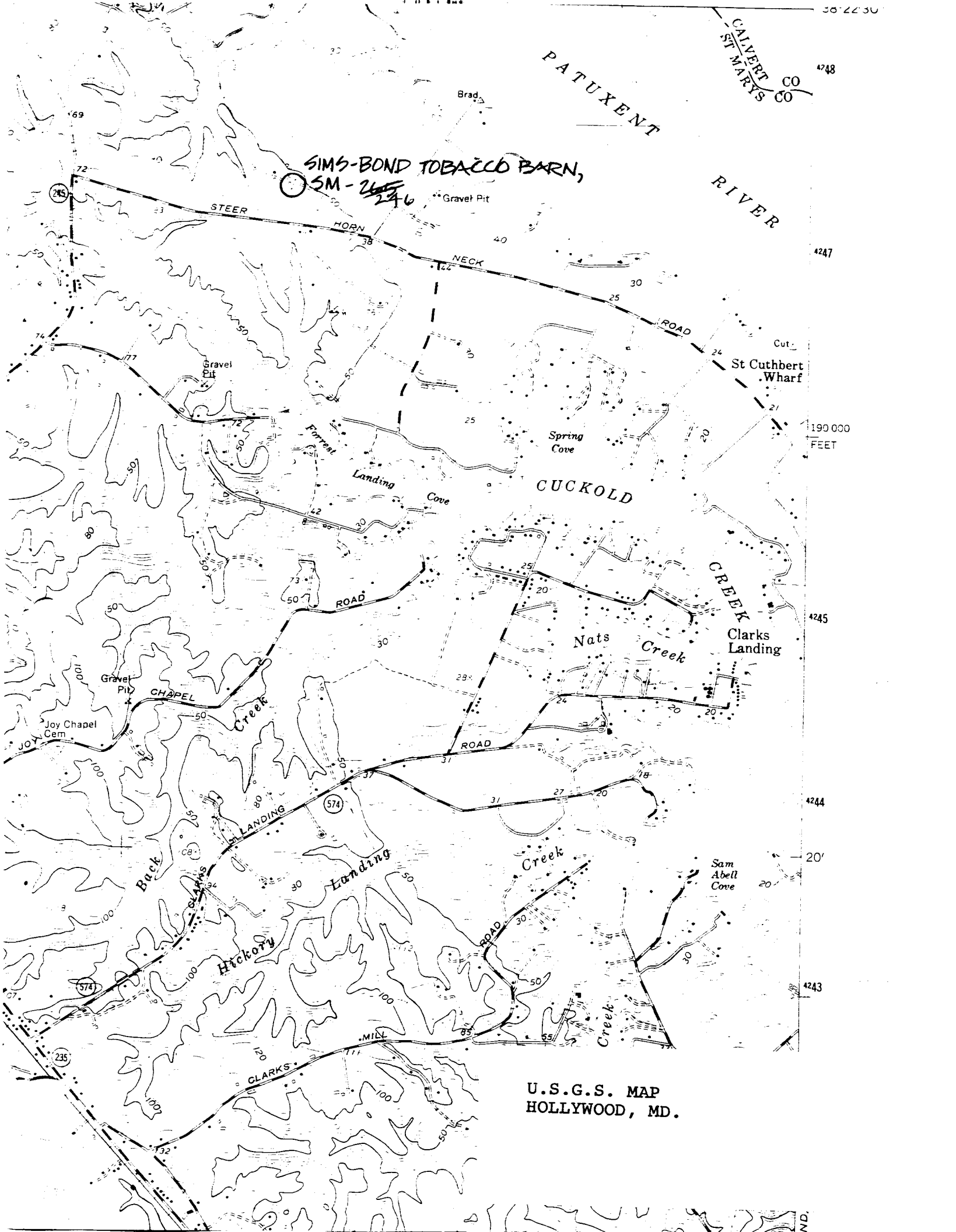


(Other doorway same + complete)





GREENWELL STATION



U.S.G.S. MAP  
HOLLYWOOD, MD.





SM-246

BOND TOBACCO BARN  
Greenwell State Park

Northeast corner  
April 1979            E. Coxe





BOND TOBACCO BARN  
Greenwell State Park

South elevation  
April 1979      E. Coxe



Sims Tobacco Barn

SM-246

Bond Tobacco Barn

Greenwell State Park

NE Elevation

BMD 12/78



SM-246

Bond Tobacco Barn, c. 1825-50  
Greenwell State Park

BMD 12/78



SM-246

BOND TOBACCO BARN

Greenwell State Park

Interior: southwest corner of log  
portion

April 1979

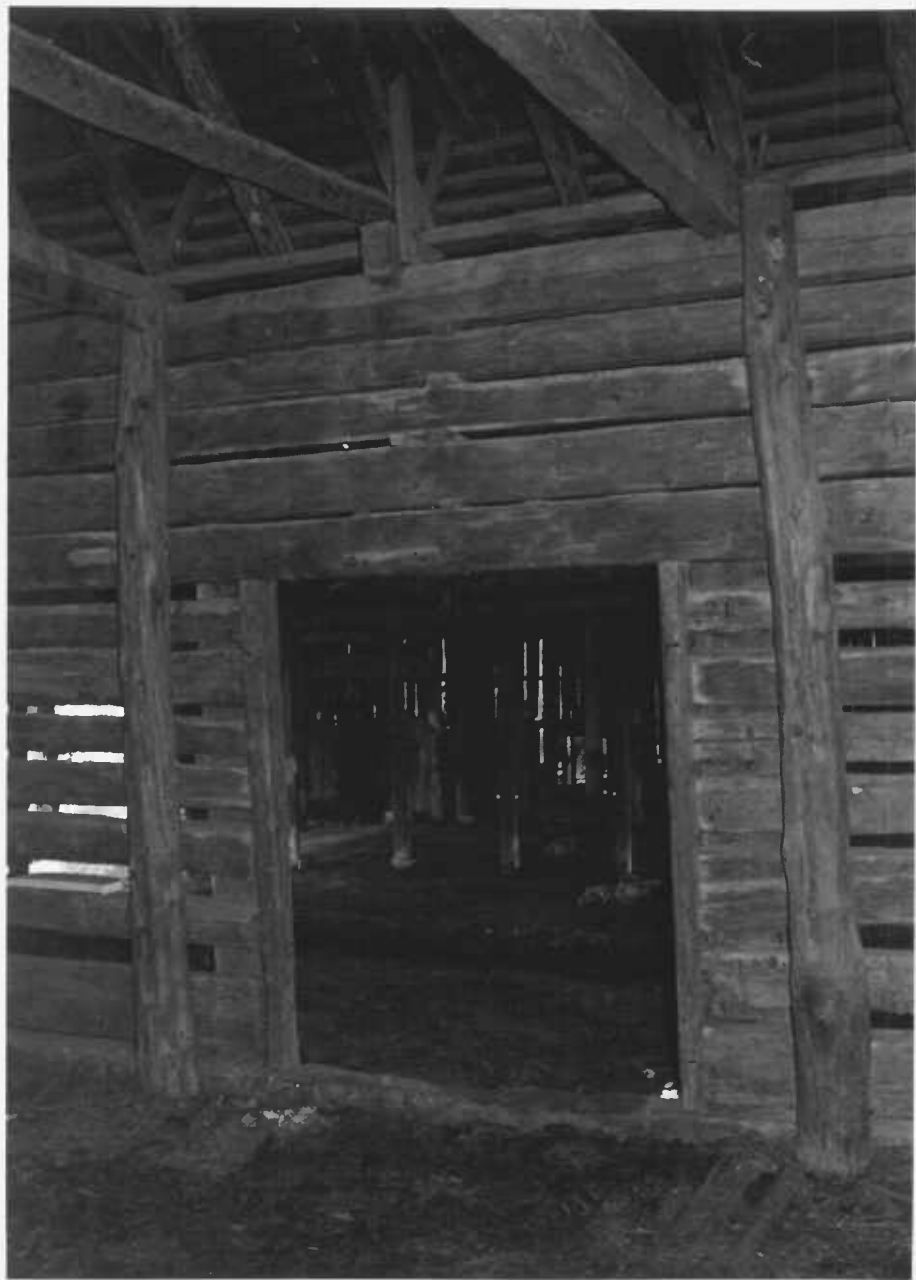
E. Coxe





Sims-Bond Tobacco Barn  
Greenwell State Park  
c. 1835

interior: south wall, log pen  
E. Coxe 6/79



SM-246

BOND TOBACCO BARN  
Greenwell State Park

Interior: south doorway to log pen  
April 1979 E. Coxe



BOND TOBACCO BARN  
Greenwell State Park

Interior: view from SW corner  
of south facade of log pen  
April 1979 E. Coxe



SM- 246

Bond Tobacco Barn  
Greenwell State Park

Interior

*E. gable end, log section*  
*(above door: board + batten)*

BMD 12/78





BOND TOBACCO BARN  
Greenwell State Park  
Interior: southeast corner of  
log portion  
April 1979 E. Coxe





SM-246

Dr. Herman J. Heikkenen and assistant  
taking samples at Sims-Bond Tobacco Farm,  
St. Mary's County.

Photographer: Garry Wheeler Stone



SM- 246

Bond Tobacco Barn  
Greenwell State Park

Interior

*Det. SW corner, showing V-notching*

BMD

12/78



SM-246

Bond Property Tobacco Barn

St. Mary's County, Md

Kirk Ranetta

Md SHPO

Nov/1999

N elevation

1 of 5





SM-246

Bond Property Tobacco Barn

St. Mary's County, Md

Kirk Ranzetta

Md SHPO

Nov/1999

Interior - South addition - continuous sill earthfast construction

2 of 5



SM-246

Bond Property Tobacco Barn  
St. Mary's County, Md

Kirk Ranzetta

Ind SHPO

Nov. 1999

Interior - NE corner

2 of 5



SM-246

Bond Property Tobacco Barn

St. Mary's County, Md

Kirk Ranetta

Md SHPO

Nov 1999

Interior - SW corner

4 of 5



SM-246

Bond Property Tobacco Farm

St. Mary's County, Md

Kirk Ranzetta

Md SHPO

Nov 1999

Interior - SW corner

3 of 5